

S-318
Pauline Crockett House
Crisfield
private

c. 1890

One of the clearest indications of the success of the oyster packing industry in Crisfield is the Pauline Crockett house, the most elaborate Queen Anne style dwelling to remain standing in the bay-side town. The exterior alone carries a wider variety of decorative wall and window treatments than any other house. Also notable is the elaborate Frank Furniss-style paneling brick chimney located on the east side of the house. Inside, the rooms are fitted with quarter-sawn oak or heart pine woodwork that retains its natural finish.

Family tradition and research has indicated that the present dwelling stands on the site of the former Crockett house that burned in the 1890s. Ananias R. Crockett is designated on this town lot in 1877, and he is listed in the atlas patron list as an oyster packer. Ananias R. Crockett's son, Abednego Riggin Crockett is credited with the construction of the extant house after an inspirational business trip to Denver, Colorado. According to tradition, Abednego Crockett ordered the plans of a house he saw in Denver and had the same structure erected on the site of his father's house.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-318

Magi No. 2003185604

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Pauline Crockett House

2. Location

street & number South Side of West Main Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Crisfield ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Miss Pauline Crockett

street & number 205 West Main Street telephone no.: 968-1703

city, town Crisfield state and zip code MD 21817

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-318

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Pauline Crockett house stands at 205 West Main Street in the heart of uptown Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style frame house faces north.

The expansive frame structure is supported by a common bond brick foundation, and it is sheathed with a combination of Victorian period siding. Weatherboards cover most of the house, however the gable fronts or sides are covered with wood shingles. The steeply pitched series of gable roofs are sheathed with slate. Rising from the center of the house is a large brick chimney with a bold corbelled chimney cap.

The north (main) elevation is an asymmetrical gable-front facade with a smaller gable that covers the two-story bay window fitted within the format of the principal gable. The two-story three-sided bay window is lighted by single-pane sash on each floor, while the second floor bay is trimmed with scrolled eave brackets and pendants at the base of the gable front roof that covers the bay. The gable-front itself is pierced by a lunette window and sheathed with a wooden grill surface. At the base of the two corner windows is a small turned post banister with a square newel post. The center bay is marked by a recessed door on the second floor with its own turned post balustrade. The principal gable front is pierced by a tri-partite attic window, while the uppermost portion of the gable projects slightly from the main wall surface and is supported by a row of bold brackets. Stretching across the first floor is a turned post porch with its own gable front that marks the entrance bay. Turned post banisters span the distance between each post. The front door is located in the westernmost bay, and it is partially paneled and partially glazed.

The east side elevation is dominated by a large gable-roofed bay. Protruding through the north slope of the roof is a Frank Furniss-style paneled brick chimney with corbelled sides and a corbelled cap. The porch extends around the east side to the side entrance.

The west elevation is relatively plain. The principal wall is divided into three bays marked by paired or single l/l sash windows. The side gable-front is covered with wood shingles and pierced by a paired multi-pane colored glass window.

Attached to the back (south) of the house is a two-story service wing that has a slightly shorter elevation than the main block. A shed roofed porch is attached to the east side, and the kitchen is lighted by single-pane sash windows.

The interior has not been surveyed.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-318

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

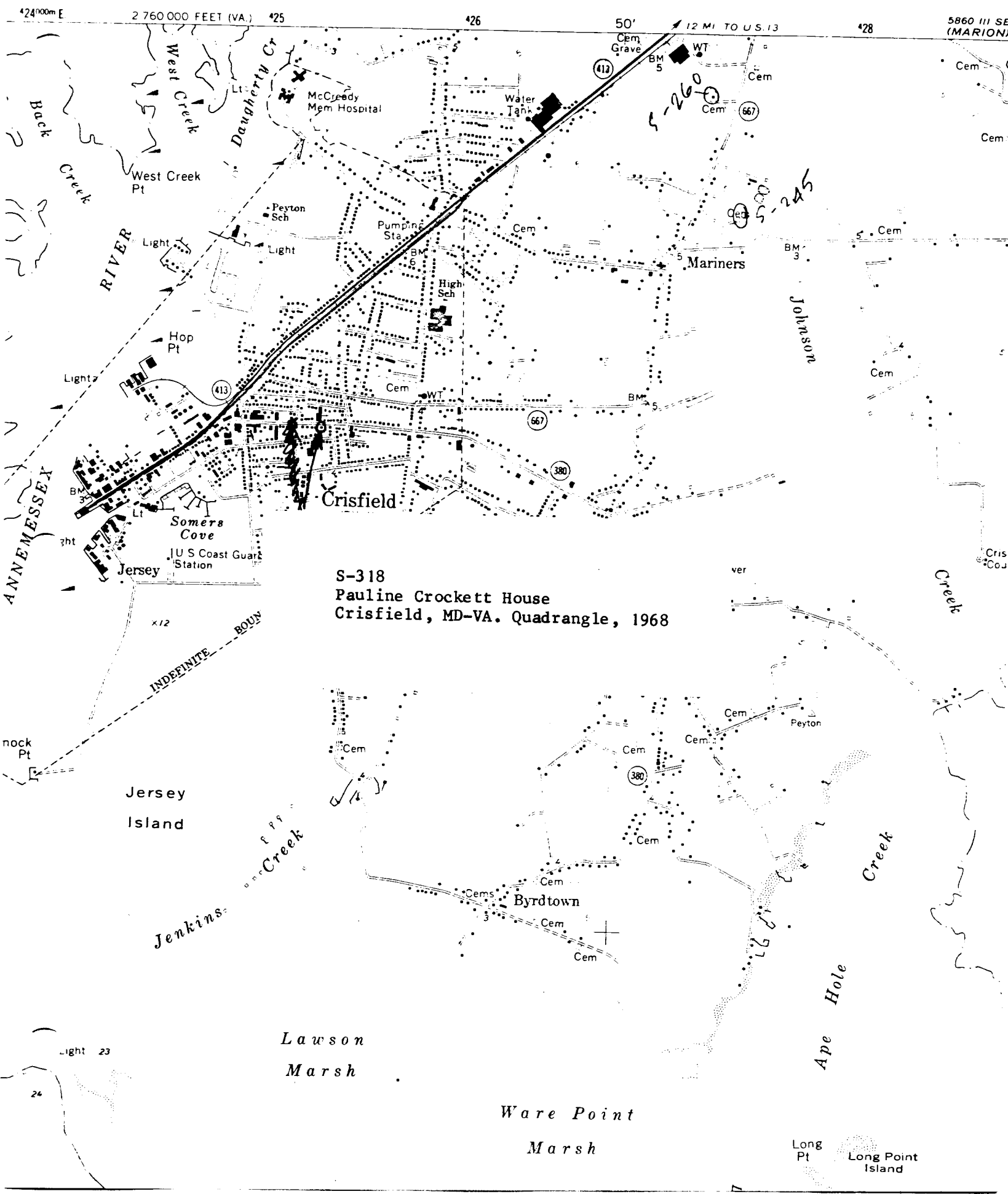
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Pauline Crockett house is the most elaborate Queen Anne style house still standing in Crisfield. The exterior alone carries a wider variety of wall and window treatments than any other house. The only other dwelling of comparable complexity was its immediate across-the-street neighbor, the Charlie Riggins house, which was used as the Immanuel Church parsonage and finally torn down. The Pauline Crockett is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Survey No. S-318

PS-2746

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





PAULINE

~~Paul~~ Crockett House

S-318

Crisfield Somerset Co. Md.

Norhtwest Elevation

3/86 Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Pauline Crockett House
Crisfield, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
7/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

S-318



Pauline Crockett House
Crisfield, Somerset County, Md.
North Elevation
3/85 Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Hist. Trust

S-318